

US 20150170496A1

### (19) United States

# (12) **Patent Application Publication** King et al.

#### (54) DEVICE AND METHOD FOR MONITORING THE PRESENCE OF ITEMS AND ISSUING AN ALERT IF AN ITEM IS NOT DETECTED

(71) Applicant: Google Inc., Mountain View, CA (US)

(72) Inventors: Martin T. King, Vashon Island, WA
(US); Claes-Fredrik Mannby, Mercer
Island, WA (US); Michael J. Smith,
Seattle, WA (US)

(73) Assignee: Google Inc., Mountain View, CA (US)

(21) Appl. No.: 14/074,988

(22) Filed: Nov. 8, 2013

#### Related U.S. Application Data

- (63) Continuation of application No. 13/019,739, filed on Feb. 2, 2011, now abandoned.
- (60) Provisional application No. 61/301,560, filed on Feb. 4, 2010.

## (10) Pub. No.: US 2015/0170496 A1

(43) Pub. Date: Jun. 18, 2015

#### **Publication Classification**

(51) **Int. Cl.** *G08B 21/18* (2006.01)

#### (57) ABSTRACT

Exemplary methods and systems for monitoring presence of an item or items are disclosed herein. An exemplary method may be carried out by a monitoring device having a processor and a memory, and may involve determining that presence data associated with an item meets one or more criteria associated with automatically adding the item to a list of items whose presence is monitored in a particular context, and based on determining that presence data associated with the item meets the one or more criteria associated with automatically adding the item to the list of items whose presence is monitored in the particular context, adding the item to the list of items whose presence is monitored in the particular context.

